

ILLINOIS FARM REPORT



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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HIGHLIGHTS
VEGETABLES
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The Staff of the Illinois Field Office wishes to thank the farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses that responded to the Vegetables for Processing Survey, March Milk Production Survey, the Floriculture Survey and the March Prices Received Survey.

VEGETABLES FOR PROCESSING

United States sweet corn processors plan to contract 399,900 acres, down five percent from 2005. Canning acreage is expected to decrease 15 percent from last year while freezing acreage is expected to increase nine percent.

Vegetable growers in Illinois intend to plant 14,100 acres of snap beans for processing under contract in 2006, down 14 percent from last year's contracted acreage. United States snap bean processors intend to contract 196,330 acres, down eight percent from last year's contract acreage. Canning acreage is expected to decrease 11 percent while freezing acreage is expected to remain unchanged.

VEGETABLES FOR PROCESSING, ILLINOIS & U.S., 2004-2006

VEGETABLES FOR PROCESSING, ILLINOIS & U.S., 2004-2006					
Area	Planted area				Percent change 2006/2005
	2004 Total	2005		2006 Contract intentions	
		Total	Contract		
	Acres				
	SWEET CORN				
Illinois	1/	1/	1/	1/	- -
United States	412,700	421,610	421,010	399,900	95
Canning	215,300	241,700	241,600	204,900	85
Freezing	197,400	179,910	179,410	195,000	109
	SNAP BEANS				
Illinois	12,900	18,000	16,400	14,100	86
United States	210,010	216,930	213,330	196,330	92
Canning	147,600	151,130	149,130	132,180	89
Freezing	62,410	65,800	64,200	64,150	100

1/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in Illinois during March 2006 totaled 179 million pounds, two percent more than March 2005. Production per cow averaged 1,720 pounds, 50 pounds above March 2005. The number of milk cows on farms in Illinois was 104,000 head, 1,000 head less than March 2005.

Milk production in the U.S. during March 2006 totaled 15.95 billion pounds, up five percent from March 2005. Production per cow averaged 1,750 pounds, 62 pounds above March 2005. The number of milk cows on farms in the U.S. was 9.11 million head, 102,000 head more than March 2005.

MILK PRODUCTION: ILLINOIS & UNITED STATES, MARCH 2005-2006

		March					
		Illinois			United States		
		2005	2006	2006 as % of 2005	2005	2006	2006 as % of 2005
Milk Production:							
Number of milk cows	Head (000)	105	104	99	9,009	9,111	101
Milk production per cow	Lbs.	1,670	1,720	103	1,688	1,750	104
Total milk production	Mil. lbs.	175	179	102	15,206	15,948	105

FLORICULTURE

GROWERS, GROWING AREA & WHOLESALE VALUE OF SALES, ILLINOIS & U.S., 2004-2005

	Illinois		United States	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
Number of growers 1/	297	277	11,385	10,563
Expanded wholesale value (thousand dollars) 1/	121,141	118,647	5,284,643	5,363,021
Total covered area (thousand square feet) 1/	14,951	15,228	944,736	915,634
Open ground (acres) 1/	533	489	41,321	41,350
	Thousand dollars			
Cut flowers	2/	719	412,431	396,693
Gladioli	2/	312	26,159	24,057
Potted flowering plants	21,807	19,363	800,535	808,941
African Violets	292	261	15,419	15,443
Azaleas	1,401	678	38,742	36,755
Chrysanthemums	2,228	1,088	68,123	68,944
Easter Lilies	1,453	1,829	36,109	35,671
Orchids	2,453	2,173	129,141	143,968
Poinsettias	9,665	9,994	246,598	242,305
Roses	77	475	17,004	17,272
Spring flowering bulbs	1,380	669	51,992	49,417
All other potted flowering plants	2,858	2,196	197,407	199,166
Foliage plants	4,759	3,829	685,264	721,049
Potted foliage	3,769	2,751	608,637	652,106
Foliage hanging baskets	990	1,078	76,627	68,943
Herbaceous perennial plants	37,826	40,098	687,578	708,305
Potted hardy/garden Chrysanthemums	5,140	5,977	136,149	141,845
Potted Hosta	4,328	2,890	45,876	41,215
Other potted herbaceous perennials	28,358	31,231	505,553	525,245
Annual bedding/garden plants	45,182	41,880	1,868,084	1,904,921
Begonias (flats)	1,176	1,138	50,818	54,656
Geraniums from seed (flats)	189	2/	7,983	6,446
New Guinea Impatiens (flats)	179	2/	4,960	5,061
Impatiens (flats)	3,255	3,121	99,802	100,254
Marigolds (flats)	1,278	1,280	50,843	52,472
Pansy/Viola (flats)	1,431	1,527	111,032	111,374
Petunias (flats)	3,025	3,018	93,551	93,814
Other flowering and foliar type (flats)	5,879	6,054	327,616	313,552
Vegetable type (flats)	1,313	1,706	70,963	76,970
Potted Begonias	655	701	26,166	30,555
Potted Geraniums from vegetative cuttings	6,968	4,610	127,671	129,909
Potted Geraniums from seed	1,568	1,054	34,785	31,921
Potted New Guinea Impatiens	1,695	1,325	43,940	45,789
Potted Impatiens	374	380	30,922	31,594
Potted Marigolds	178	174	10,417	40,689
Potted Pansy/Viola	516	568	40,164	47,118
Potted Petunias	607	746	38,871	42,109
Other potted flowering and foliar type	3,803	4,554	343,192	364,555
Potted vegetable type	497	454	60,334	64,681
Begonia hanging baskets	857	811	16,122	16,674
Geranium (cuttings) hanging baskets	2,017	1,215	37,943	33,322
New Guinea Impatiens hanging baskets	1,545	1,040	32,725	30,013
Impatiens hanging baskets	707	755	20,257	20,430
Petunia hanging baskets	1,428	1,481	28,547	30,222
Other flowering hanging baskets	2,570	2,788	137,301	140,892
Total wholesale value of reported crops	113,134	112,092	4,985,408	5,083,421

1/ Includes all growers with gross value of sales of \$10,000 or more. Expanded wholesale value includes sales reported by growers with \$100,000 or more in sales plus a calculated value for growers with sales below \$100,000. All other estimates represent growers with value of sales of \$100,000 or more.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

The March index of prices received by Illinois farmers for all commodities was 100 percent of the base, down three points from the revised February figure and 16 points below March 2005. The current year's base was computed by multiplying the average production for the five-year period by the average price for each year. These five years were summed and then divided by five to arrive at an average (base) for the period. The current five-year average production was then multiplied by the current price and divided by the average for the five years to arrive at the current index. The March All Crops index, at 97 percent of the base, was three points below the revised February number and 13 points below March of last year. Soybean, sorghum, wheat, and oat prices decreased from last month while corn and other hay increased. The All Livestock index was at 111 percent of the base, down five points from the revised February number and 25 points below March 2005. Sow prices increased from last month while milk, calves, cow, steer and heifer, and barrow and gilt prices decreased. The hog-corn ratio was at 21.0.

The U.S. preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in March was 113, based on 1990-92=100, down one point from February. The Crop Index was up three points but the Livestock Index decreased three points. Producers received higher commodity prices for eggs, lettuce, potatoes, and cauliflower. Lower prices were received for cattle, tomatoes, milk, and strawberries. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a three-year average mix of commodities a producer sells. Increased average marketings of asparagus, strawberries, milk, and tomatoes offset decreased marketings of cattle, oranges, upland cotton, and corn.

INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

Commodity	Feb. 2005	Mar. 2005	Feb. 2006	Mar. 15, 2006
ILLINOIS		1999-2003=100	2000-2004=100	
All Farm Products	111	116	103 *	100
All Crops	104	110	100 *	97
Food grains	134	138	116 *	113
Feed grains/hay	96	99	96 *	94
Soybeans	113	124	104 *	99
All Livestock	135	136	116 *	111
Meat animals	137	138	115 *	110
Dairy products	130	130	123 *	117
UNITED STATES		1990-92=100		
All Farm Products	114	119	114 *	113
All Crops	107	116	114 *	117
Food grains	109	111	121 *	122
Feed grains/hay	91	95	96 *	96
Oilseeds	99	107	102 *	99
All Livestock	119	121	114 *	111
Meat animals	119	122	120 *	116
Dairy products	119	119	103 *	98
Prices Paid	137	139	145 *	144
Parity Ratio 1/	83	86	79 *	83

1/ Prices received index divided by prices paid index.

* Revised.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS 1/

Commodity	Unit	Illinois				United States			
		Feb. 2005	Mar. 2005	Feb. 2006	Mar. 15, 2006	Feb. 2005	Mar. 2005	Feb. 2006	Mar. 15, 2006
		Dollars							
Corn	Bushels	2.02	2.09	2.08 *	2.10	1.95	2.02	2.02 *	2.01
Soybeans	Bushels	5.49	6.03	5.80 *	5.75	5.42	5.95	5.67 *	5.55
Sorghum	Cwt.	3.67	3.50	4.06 *	3.90	2.96	3.04	3.66 *	3.71
Wheat, all	Bushels	3.50	3.57	3.46 *	3.30	3.36	3.42	3.40 *	3.29
Oats	Bushels	3/	1.94	2.06 *	2.05	1.67	1.73	1.82 *	1.77
Hay, all baled	Tons	87.00	92.00	100.00	103.00	88.20	92.60	95.00 *	97.10
Alfalfa hay, bld	Tons	92.00	94.00	105.00	105.00	94.00	98.60	99.20 *	100.00
Other hay, bld	Tons	67.00	70.00	80.00	81.00	74.20	77.80	83.20 *	86.60
Hogs, all	Cwt.	51.80	52.50	43.80 *	44.00	50.70	51.20	42.60 *	42.40
Barrows, Gilts	Cwt.	52.50	53.50	45.00 *	44.90	51.00	51.50	43.20 *	42.80
Sows	Cwt.	43.30	42.00	29.90 *	33.40	45.10	43.40	31.10 *	34.40
Beef cattle	Cwt.	87.30	90.20	90.20	87.20	88.80	91.00	92.40 *	89.20
Cows	Cwt.	51.00	53.00	50.00	47.00	52.50	55.00	49.70 *	49.90
Steers, Heifers	Cwt.	88.00	91.00	91.00	88.00	93.10	95.20	97.80 *	94.10
Calves	Cwt.	115.00	123.00	123.00 *	120.00	129.00	136.00	142.00 *	138.00
Milk cows	Head	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/
Milk, all	Cwt.	15.90	16.10	14.80 *	14.60	15.50	15.60	13.50 *	12.80
Milk, fluid	Cwt.	15.90	16.10	14.80	3/	15.50	15.60	13.50 *	12.80
Milk, mfg.	Cwt.	15.90	15.50	14.00	3/	14.90	14.80	12.60 *	11.80
Hog-corn ratio		25.6	25.2	21.1 *	21.0	26.0	25.4	21.1 *	21.1

1/ Prices received represents the average of all grades or classes at point of first sale and should not be confused with market quotations.

2/ Estimated in January, April, July and October.

3/ State prices not published.

* Revised.

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UPCOMING AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS BOARD AND ILLINOIS RELEASES

Release dates for reports of interest to Illinois agriculture are listed at the right. Reports are released at 2 P.M. Central Time on the day indicated, except Weather & Crops which is released at 3 P.M. Central Time and reports identified with an asterisk (*) are released at 7:30 A.M. Central Time. Information from each report is broadcast over local radio and TV stations and the reports are available in written form by subscribing to the Illinois Farm Report or Illinois Weather & Crops. The Illinois Farm Report is available on the internet at <http://www.nass.usda.gov>. Information from each report is also available by phone by calling the Illinois Field Office. For information about a report or a subscription, write or call:

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	May 1	Weather & Crops
	May 8	Weather & Crops
*	May 12	Crop Production
	May 15	Weather & Crops
	May 17	Milk Production
	May 22	Weather & Crops
	May 30	Weather & Crops
	May 31	Agricultural Prices
	June 5	Weather & Crops
*	June 9	Crop Production
	June 12	Weather & Crops
	June 16	Milk Production
	June 19	Weather & Crops
	June 26	Weather & Crops
	June 29	Agricultural Prices
*	June 30	Acreage
*	June 30	Grain Stocks
	June 30	Hogs & Pigs
	July 3	Weather & Crops
	July 10	Weather & Crops
*	July 12	Crop Production
	July 17	Weather & Crops
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	July 21	Cattle
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	July 31	Agricultural Prices

Brad Schwab, Mark Schleusener, Michael S. Clark, Agricultural Statisticians
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